# QUERI
## Quality Enhancement Research Initiative

# VA RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT
**Today's VA research LEADING tomorrow's health care**

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### Agenda Highlights

- Poster session and reception

- Plenary presentations

- In depth implementation research methods workshops

- QUERI Executive Committee meetings

- Workshop sessions to plan collaborations with AHRQ, NIH and other public and private funding agencies, health care systems, etc.

### Contact Information

Questions regarding the meeting agenda, abstract submission and poster/workshop presentations should be directed to:
Nina Smith, MPH
Tel: 818-891-7711 x7235
Email: Nina.Smith@med.va.gov

Questions regarding meeting logistics (hotel arrangements, travel expenses) should be directed to:
Jenny Girard
Tel: 818-891-7711 x7572
Email: Jenny.Girard@med.va.gov

# Meeting Announcement and Call for Abstracts
## QUERI National Meeting 2003
## December 10-12, 2003
## Washington, DC

The 2003 National Meeting of VA's Quality Enhancement Research Initiative (QUERI) will be held in Washington DC from December 10 through 12, 2003. The 2003 QUERI National Meeting offers an opportunity for intensive, focused reviews and discussions of QUERI methods, projects and progress to date, as well as development and refinement of QUERI plans for the future. Meeting participants will include (a) VA investigators, clinicians, managers and leaders actively involved in QUERI projects, (b) VA researchers, clinicians and managers involved in other research-based quality enhancement initiatives within VA, and (c) representatives from non-VA organizations actively involved in evidence- and research-based approaches to improving health care quality and outcomes.

Meeting sessions (including plenary talks, posters and workshops) will address the significant challenges and barriers associated with health care quality and outcome improvement, and effective approaches for designing, conducting and evaluating successful improvement efforts. The QUERI National Meeting complements the mission and program for the March 2004 National Meeting of VA's Office of Research and Development (ORD): the QUERI meeting will emphasize methodological details and practical (policy- and practice-oriented) aspects of quality enhancement research methods and findings, whereas the ORD meeting will include sessions featuring selected state-of-the-art research from QUERI as well as related areas such as implementation and management research. ORD researchers interested in research on methods for translating or implementing evidence-based practices into routine care settings will benefit from presentations and attendance at the QUERI and ORD meetings.

Attendance at the 2003 QUERI meeting is by invitation only. All active QUERI Center leaders, investigators and advisory group members will receive invitations. Selected representatives from non-VA organizations and programs also will be invited to participate and contribute to meeting sessions. VA investigators involved in efforts to implement evidence-based clinical practices in areas not covered by QUERI are invited to attend and contribute to the meeting through presentation of a poster or a workshop. Detailed instructions for submission of abstracts for posters are provided on the second page; **abstracts are due by October 24, 2003.** Travel expenses will be covered for participants presenting posters.

Instructions for meeting registration, travel arrangements and expenses, and other meeting logistics will be sent directly to invited participants. Members of QUERI Centers (investigators and advisory group members) should contact their respective QUERI Center Administrative Coordinator for registration and travel information.

**Please visit the QUERI website: http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/research/queri/**

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**QUERI National Meeting 2003**

**Instructions for Submitting Poster Abstracts**

VA investigators interested in presenting a poster at the 2003 QUERI National Meeting should submit an abstract according to the instructions provided below. Posters must describe projects addressing one or more aspects of the QUERI "six-step process" (see below), but may address any clinical condition or disease area of interest to VA (i.e., one of the designated QUERI conditions/diseases or any other condition/disease or clinical practice relevant to VA). Posters will be arranged in the poster session by QUERI "step" to facilitate interaction and networking among meeting participants with similar interests.

Abstracts must be submitted by the deadline (5:00 pm Pacific time on Friday, October 24, 2003) via electronic mail according to the instructions below. Strict adherence to the instructions is critical to ensure appropriate review by the Meeting Program Committee and abstract reviewers.

1.  Abstract format specifications

Abstracts should be no more than 300 words (including title) and should include the following headings:
* Objectives, Methods/Approach, Results/Findings, Implications

Submit the abstract in a *Microsoft Word* file with the poster title (no more than 80 characters) centered at the top in **bold font** followed by the abstract text; do **not** include author names, affiliations or contact information in the abstract file. Use the first 3-5 words of the poster title as the *Word* file name.

2.  Abstract Submission Procedure

Submit the abstract as an electronic mail message attachment to  Jenny.Girard@med.va.gov   for receipt no later than 5:00 pm Pacific time on Friday, October 24, 2003.

Use the following as the email message Subject line:   Abstract submission, QUERI National Meeting

Provide the following information in the body of the email message:
* Abstract author(s)
* Lead/corresponding author (designate one only)
* Lead/corresponding author email address and phone number (for notification of acceptance)
* Poster presenter name (or state "lead author")
* Abstract title (must match title in abstract file; 80 character max)
* Abstract category code(s):  designate up to three category code(s) from the list below

Notification of acceptance (and travel instructions) will be provided via e-mail by November 7th.

3.  Abstract Category Codes (based on the QUERI *Six-Step Process*)

**Step 1:**  **Select Diseases/Conditions** (e.g., data on disease prevalence, burden)

**Step 2:**  **Identify Evidence-Based Guidelines/Recommendations** (select/develop guidelines, rec's)

**Step 3:**  **Measure and Diagnose Quality/Performance Gaps**  (measure current practices, study determinants of current practices, measure quality gaps, diagnose causes of quality gaps)

**Step 4:**  **Implement Improvement Programs** (identify/develop and apply intervention strategies or programs to implement evidence-based clinical practices and improve quality and outcomes)

**Step 5/6:**  **Evaluate Improvement Programs** and assess their impacts on patient, family and health care system outcomes, including patient health-related quality of life

**Step M:**  **Develop, Test and Validate QUERI-Related Research/Evaluation Methods, Measures and Data Sources**